

North Carolina Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2004
DRAFT

Members present:

Rich Greb, Chair	X	Bill Jones	X
Libby Jones, Co-Chair		Phyllis Kennedy	X
Jimmie Arrington	X	Jeff McCloud	X
Mary Bethel	X	James Osberg (Laura White)	X
Dorothy O'Neil		Pat Prescott	
Rochelle Edwards		Chris Rakes	X
Dan Fox	X	Frank Read	X
Linner Ward Griffin		Osborne Shamberger	
Kaye Holder		Paula Snipes	
Patricia Harris	X	Mary Recca Todd	X
John Hayes*		Carolyn Wiser	X
Ellen Holliman	X	Laura Yates	
Bill Hussey		Sheila Wall-Hill	X
Diann Irwin	X		
Lucy Dorsey	X		
		Staff: Steven E. Hairston	X

The following were in attendance serving in the capacity as observer or presenter:
Michael Moseley, Spencer Clark, Bonnie Morell, Marty Lamb, Deborah Merrill, Markita Moore Keaton, Vanessa Holman and Ken Earnhardt.

Rich Greb, Chair

Rich opened the meeting by welcoming members and guests to the meeting. He introduced Steve Hairston of the Division who is staffing the Council until a replacement for Amy Smiley is hired. Steve is the Team Leader for the Planning Team in the Administrative Support Section of the Division. Each Council member and the visitors present at the meeting took a moment to introduce themselves to the assembly. Council approved the minutes from the March 5, 2004 meeting.

Michael Moseley

Michael Moseley the new Director of the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services provided the Directors Report. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom appointed Mr. Moseley who is a 28-year employee of the Division on March 5, 2004. He has served in a number of capacities within the Division and is extremely active in civic affairs in the city of Kinston, where he resides. He stated that the following points, which were apart of the Director's report, are important for the Division and the Planning Council to be aware of as reform moves forward. First, reform will continue leaders and citizens of the state have invested a lot of time and resources to this effort, but it is important at this juncture that we proceed with caution, each step must be deliberate and does not hurt consumers. Lines of communication between the Division and citizens will be open so those citizens become knowledgeable about issues that are being addressed by Division staff. Internal work, like developing the DHHS/LME contract and service definitions is going to move forward. He would like to see the Division begin some type of public relations or media campaign to get the positive stories of reform told. He plans to involve CFAC members, meet with editorial boards and appear on public television to get this initiative started. He stated that he looked forward to working with the Council and would be available when needed.

Bonnie Morell

Bonnie Morell, Team Leader for Best Practice Team provided an update on the expenditure of Mental Health Block Grant funds during state fiscal year 2003-2004. She also provided a status report on the proposed new and revised service definitions related to adult mental health. The definitions are complete, at this time there is a conference call scheduled between the Divisions of Mental Health and Medical Assistance and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) to obtain clarification on some of the questions about the service definitions and direct enrollment of providers with DMA. Bonnie stated that she would be glad to come to the Councils next meeting and provide an update on that conversation and like matters.

During Bonnie's presentation, members of the Council expressed interest in the Child Mental Health Plan. It was suggested that Susan Robinson, the Project Director for the Child Mental Health Plan be extended an invitation to attend the next meeting to discuss the Plan. Steve Hairston will check on Susan Robinson's availability for the next meeting and coordinate her presentation if she can attend.

Deborah Merrill and Spencer Clark

Deborah Merrill a member of the Information Services Team of the Division gave a presentation of the State Mental Health Data Infrastructure Grant for Quality Improvement (DIG). The Division is currently in the process of completing the grant application for the DIG to CMS for funding. The application is due June 4, 2004 and proposes to continue enhancement of the mental health data infrastructure for quality improvement by increasing the capacity to report on all of the CMS Uniform Reporting System measures for the Mental Health Block Grant Program. She shared with the Council the proposed plans on how DIG funds would be used by the Division to enhance data collection and reporting for North Carolina Treatment Outcomes and Program Performance System (NC-TOPPS). Under the plan the Division would gradually replace

the Client Outcome Inventory (COI) system through the systematic adoption and enhancement of the existing tool and infrastructure of the web-based NC-TOPPS. NC-TOPPS is currently used by all of the state's area programs or LME's and many private providers and is designed to collect outcome data on designed populations of clients who are recipients of substance abuse treatment services. The proposed enhancement will add measures into the web-based NC-TOPPS environment that will specifically focus on child and mental health issues and concerns.

Council Action

Mary Bethel presented a motion for the Mental Health Planning Council to provide a letter of support to CMS for the Division's efforts to enhance its data systems through the proposals outlined in the DIG application. Mary Rea seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous vote of the members in attendance.

Jeff McCloud asked the Division to please make every effort to ensure that client's personal information is not included on any survey forms or information. Spencer Clark stated that every effort would be made to instruct area programs/LME and private providers not to seek or include personal information from clients who complete satisfaction surveys. These surveys should and will remain anonymous.

Marty Lamb

Marty Lamb of the Justice Systems Innovation Team presented on the organizational structure and work of the Justice Systems Innovations Team. This work includes providing information to the justice system and citizens on opportunities to focus on prevention in the community by exploring options to preventing arrest, diversion before booking and adjudication and the use of other services and supports. In addition, she discussed the importance of discharge planning for persons who are leaving incarceration and the need for follow-up once someone has been released into the community. Lastly, Ms. Lamb told the Council that the Division is working with the Hospital Association on issues related to diversion.

Member Updates

Mary Rea Todd-The Housing Taskforce has completed its final report and it will be available in the near future.

Mary Bethel-The Geriatric Mental Health Conference will be held in Greensboro, NC and is sponsored by the Greensboro AHEC. No date or time was provided.

Dan Fox-The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services will be conducting public hearings on its State Plan. The hearing in Raleigh will be held on May 19, 2004. The hearing is scheduled from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at the State Office located on Dorothea Dix Campus.

Phyllis Kennedy-She has information on the Family-to-Family Education Program sponsored by NAMI. Brochures are available at this meeting for anyone who is interested.

Rich Greb-Updated the Council on his participation during the monitoring visit for the Mental Health Block Grant. He acknowledged that some members of the Council had an opportunity to talk with the monitors during their visit. It is anticipated that a draft of the report will be forthcoming in the next month or so and that he along with the Division

Director would receive the final report from the Monitoring Team once it was completed. He stated that he would share that report with the members of the Council.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Remaining dates for 2004:

- ◆ July 16
- ◆ September 17
- ◆ November 5